

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KATHMA 04776 021300Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07
JUSE-00 NSAE-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 USIA-06 NSC-05
OES-07 OMB-01 L-03 AID-05 /075 W
-----086573 030927Z /12

R 021050Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0037
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4776

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SNAR, NP, UR, YO
SUBJECT: OPIUM - NEPAL

REF: KATHMANDU 3912

1. PRO-SOVIET NEWSPAPER, SAMIKSHA WEEKLY, OCTOBER 21
CARRIED EDITORIAL CRITICIZING BAN ON CULTIVATION AND
PRODUCTION OF NARCOTICS IN NEPAL, SAYING THAT BAN "HAS
ONLY DEPRIVED NEPAL OF A MAJOR AND EASY SOURCE OF FOREIGN
EXCHANGE EARNINGS". EDITORIAL ARGUES THAT NEPAL "CAN
SUPPLY OPIUM TO THE SOVIET UNION TO PAY FOR THE OIL WE IMPORT
FROM THAT COUNTRY". EDITORIAL GOES ON TO SAY THAT "LAST
YEAR YUGOSLAVIA HAD REPORTEDLY OFFERED TO DEVELOP OPIUM
CULTIVATION IN NEPAL THROUGH SOVIET COOPERATION AND BUY THE
PRODUCE AT REASONABLE PRICE, BUT THE OFFER HAS NOW BEEN
PRACTICALLY FORGOTTEN." AND CONCLUDES THAT "AN EXPERT
MAINTAINS THAT GANJA AND OPIUM CULTIVATION UNDER GENERAL
SUPERVISION AND WITH A LITTLE INVESTMENT CAN
SUSTAIN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY SIGNIFICANTLY."

2. WE FIND THE EDITORIAL INTRIGUING, IN VIEW OF THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KATHMA 04776 021300Z

REPORTS WE HAVE HAD (REFTEL) OF YUGOSLAV AND SOVIET SHOWS
OF INTEREST IN PURCHASING OPIUM FROM NEPAL. DCM A
FEW DAYS AGO CALLED EDITORIAL TO THE ATTENTION OF
SOVIET COUNSELOR POGODIN AND ASKED HIM WHETHER USSR
HAD SHOWN INTEREST IN PURCHASING OPIUM FROM NEPAL.
POGODIN HEDGED, SAYING HE BELIEVED NEPAL HAD ASKED
SOVIETS IF THEY WOULD BE INTERESTED IN BUYING OPIUM,

BUT FINALLY PLEADED HIS NEWNESS TO NEPAL AND SAID HE
WOULD HAVE TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER.
EAVES

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRODUCTION, DRUG TRAFFIC
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KATHMA04776
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770404-1179
Format: TEL
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197710103/aaaadjoz.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1ac63524-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 KATHMANDU 3912
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 743419
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OPIUM - NEPAL
TAGS: SNAR, SOPN, NP, UR, YO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1ac63524-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009